

United States Attorney District of New Jersey

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FORMER FREEHOLD, NEW JERSEY YMCA EMPLOYEE PLEADS GUILTY TO POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

TRENTON, N.J. – A former employee of a YMCA in Freehold, N.J., pleaded guilty today in Trenton federal court to possessing child pornography, U.S. Attorney Paul J. Fishman announced.

Thomas Freeman, 54, of Wall Township, N.J., pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Peter G. Sheridan to an Indictment charging him with possession of child pornography, admitting he saved several hundred images of child pornography to his home computer. He was remanded to federal custody following the appearance.

According to documents filed in this case and statements made in court:

In July 2008, federal agents executed a search warrant at Freeman's home. During the search, agents seized a desktop computer and various media storage devices belonging to Freeman. Subsequent forensic analysis of the computer revealed several hundred images of child pornography, including multiple images of prepubescent minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct.

The count of possession of child pornography carries a maximum potential penalty of 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. Sentencing is scheduled for April 14, 2011.

U.S. Attorney Fishman credited postal inspectors from the United States Postal Inspection Service, under the direction of Acting Inspector in Charge Thomas E. Boyle in Newark, for the investigation of this case.

The government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Lee Vartan and Amy Luria of the United States Attorney's Office Criminal Division in Newark.

11-026 ###

Defense counsel: Peter Carter, Esq., Newark, New Jersey